

1. *MICANA NANA*.*Voluta nitidula*, Soland. MSS.; Dillw. R. S. 521.*V. utriculus*, var., Gmelin, E. M. t. 363. f. 4.*Oliva nana*, Lamk. no. 60; Duclos, Oliv. t. 25. f. 5-8, oper. A. B; Reeve, C. I. t. 23. f. 66.*V. Ispidula*, var., Born.*Oliva micans*, Desh.*Voluta micans*, Soland. MSS.; Dillw. R.S. 521; E. M. t. 363. f. 3.*Oliva millepunctata*, Duclos, Oliv. t. 25. f. 1-4; Reeve, C. I. t. 28. f. 87.*Oliva oryza*, Lamk. no. 62; Duclos, Oliv. t. 1. f. 9, 10.*Voluta oryza*, Dillw. R. S. 522.*Oliva rufifasciata*, Reeve, C. I. t. 28. f. 88.*Hab.* West Indies.

January 26, 1858.

P. L. Selater, Esq., F.L.S., in the Chair.

The following papers were read:—

1. NOTICE OF A NEW GENUS OF UROPELTIDÆ FROM CEYLON, IN THE COLLECTION OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM. BY DR. J. E. GRAY, F.R.S., V.P.Z. AND ENT. SOC. ETC.

(Reptilia, Pl. XIII.)

In examining the reptiles recently acquired in the British Museum, Mr. Edward Gerrard observed a Saurian from Ceylon, which he believed to be new. I have great pleasure in sending a description of it to the Society, and in naming it after Mr. Gerrard, the preparer of the osteological specimens and of the animals in spirits in the British Museum, who has a most extraordinary empirical knowledge of the osteology of the different vertebrated animals and of the species of reptiles and fish.

*MITYLIA*, n. g.

Head tapering in front, acute; rostral scale produced, compressed, acute, bluntly keeled above and below. Tail very short, subconical, rounded, covered with very close-set rough scales, each marked with two slight ridges of small asperities, with a central terminal rough oblong plate furnished with a perpendicular blunt keel; subcaudal shields in five rows, central series rather wider, six-sided; vent with two shields in front, and one in front of them between their base.

MITYLIA GERRARDI. (Pl. XIII.)

Black ; sides with a series of short white perpendicular bands ; underside white, with a black spot in the middle of each scale, a white oblong four-sided spot over the base of the caudal rugosity ; subcaudal scales few, with a small black spot in the centre of each.

*Hab.* Ceylon.

The form of the head agrees with the genus *Rhinophis* of Wagler ; but it differs from that genus in the shortness, and especially in the structure, of the caudal shield, which, in that genus, is formed of a single horny conical plate.

2. NOTICE OF THE BOSCH VARK (POTAMOCHÆRUS AFRICANUS),  
LIVING IN THE GARDENS OF THE SOCIETY. BY DR. J. E.  
GRAY, F.R.S., V.P.Z.S., ETC.

(Mammalia, Pl. LIX.)

It was with great pleasure I was able to examine a living specimen of the *Bosch Vark* from the Cape of Good Hope, as some zoologists who had lived at the Cape had expressed to me a doubt as to the distinctness of the Painted Pig of the Camaroons from the *Bosch Vark* of the Cape, which they informed me is apt to vary in colouring, being sometimes fulvous.

Any one who examines the two living animals as they are now placed, in two paddocks side by side in the Gardens, must at once be satisfied of the distinctness of the species of the two animals, quite independent of any variation that may occur in the ground colour of the individuals, and at the same time be convinced of their distinctness from the other pig and of their alliance to each other. Their differences may be thus stated in parallel columns :—

P. AFRICANUS, S. Africa.

The hair very long, blackish.

The nuchal crest very large, bushy, and extending over the shoulder.

Tail slender, placed rather high up.

The ears moderate, rather broad, with a small pencil at the tip.

P. PENICILLATUS, W. Africa.

The hair short, adpressed, deep red.

The nuchal crest small, low, white, forming a narrow line.

Tail very thick, placed very high up in the haunches.

The ears large, elongate, narrow, with a large terminal pencil.

These descriptions were taken at the same time of the year.

The two sexes of the two species are similarly coloured and agree in the above characters. There are also several other distinctive characters not so easily described.